

# Network Traffic Based Detection of Repackaged Android Apps via Mobile Fog Computing

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## **Abstract**

*Repackaged apps are the biggest challenge in the Android ecosystem. Many tools are available in the market to detect the repackaged apps. Most of the tools and recent researches comparing the original apps with suspected apps to detect the repackaged apps. Into this one more biggest challenge to choose the original. The solution to this problem to make an official android store for all original apps. However, the pairwise comparison is not the optimum solution because it is time-consuming and inefficient to repackage detection apps.*

*This paper proposes an approach to detect the repackaged apps using network traffic-based clustering using Fog Computing. The main observation to collect the network traffics to trace the plaintext for original and repackaged app detection. During analyzing of traffics, extracting the statistical feature, calculate the similarity between app. Here, the clustering automatically separates both types of apps, such as a repackaged and original app. The experiment analyses the performance of the proposed approach with minimum complexity and high precision and reduces the effort of mobile computing to resolve the malware.*

*Keywords: Network Traffic, Cluster analysis, Repackage app, feature Extraction, Mobile Fog Computing, Android Malware*

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

Presently, Android devices (tablet, smartwatch, and smartphone) have speedy popularity worldwide. As per one website survey of Statista, The Android mobile OS is counted more than 73.48% on Dec 2020 in the Global market [1]. The leading cause of the popularity of Android OS, it is open source and conveniently downloads android apps from various play store. The most famous app store is the Google play store, which has approx. Three million apps by Feb 2021 [2]. These feature-rich apps types make the Android ecosystem more attractive and vibrant.

Android app has the extension \*.APK (Android Package Kit) in ZIP format, including Share Object(SO), manifest, class.DEX. Developer byte code. Android apps are easily de-assembled or repackaged by some popular tools such as apktool1 and Jadx2, which can quickly add malicious code or add some extra ad's ware. The malicious code is used to steal sensitive information, and ad code is used to earn financial gain. Therefore, repackaging app has become a significant threat to the android ecosystem [3].

In [4-6], apps embedded with malicious code, detect as repackaged apps. The majority of malware are repackaged apps. Authors observed that repackaging becomes a substantial threat to secure Android environments. Several approaches have been proposed to investigate the detection of repackaged apps [7-14]. Previous work has two categories to detect malware, such as off-device and In-device. Off-devices dynamic run the APK in the virtual environment. It extracts the signature of APK and records the behaviors of apps. If any malicious code or unpredictable behaviors are diagnosed, treat it as malware. Those approaches are designed as network traffic-based detection of malware.

On-device detection, These techniques judged the app's behavior on local user devices; it recognizes the malware during the installation process of APK. If we compare between off-device and the On-device approach, the on-device approach has limited space, resources to detect the malware. However, in off-

device approach have extensive resources, power, and space. Nevertheless, on-device is more challenging than off-devices due to limited resources.

Several approaches have been proposed to detect malware on mobile devices. The first approach to observing the operating system behavior, API calls, and application network behavior should be extracted and defined—the subsequent detection of malware based on feature extraction. Current approaches are divided into client and server-side detection; client-side approaches detect the malware on mobile devices, and server-side approaches detect the malware into apps on the remote server. In practice, client-side approaches have restrictions due to limited resources and power to detect malware into apps [8]. However, server-side approaches have extensive resources, more power, and high performance [15]. The reason, detection feature is collected and processed on mobile devices.

This paper proposed an approach to detect the repackaged malware based on clustering via Mobile Fog Computing (MFC). The main strategy of our method to extract the feature of apps and pre-evaluate offload to Fog. Therefore, the workload of mobile devices is reduced. Our proposed architecture has three components to detect Android Malware: Mobile devices, Fog Server, and cloud. The Fog server extracts the detection feature from mobile network traffic; this approach does preprocess, which helps to reduce the workload of mobile devices, minimize the amount of data to send, and protect mobile users' privacy. The extracted feature from network traffics are sent to the cloud for result processing. The app's similarity is evaluated based on extractive features on the cloud, deciding the app is the original app or repackaged malware. The based on similarities of the app, automatically clustering separated the original app and repackaged malware. We designed the comprehensive set of experiments, found an average accuracy rate of 97.7%.

Our main contribution in proposed works is significantly less complex and effective frameworks based on fog computing for detecting repackaged malware. This is the server-side approach, which is reduced the workload of mobile devices. In addition, it has network traffics-based feature extraction; it has a reasonable accuracy rate of detection and protection of mobile user's privacy—the identification or detection of repackaged Android malware done through the network traffic clustering approach.

We cluster the network traffics that generated the app to conclude which app has been repackaged.

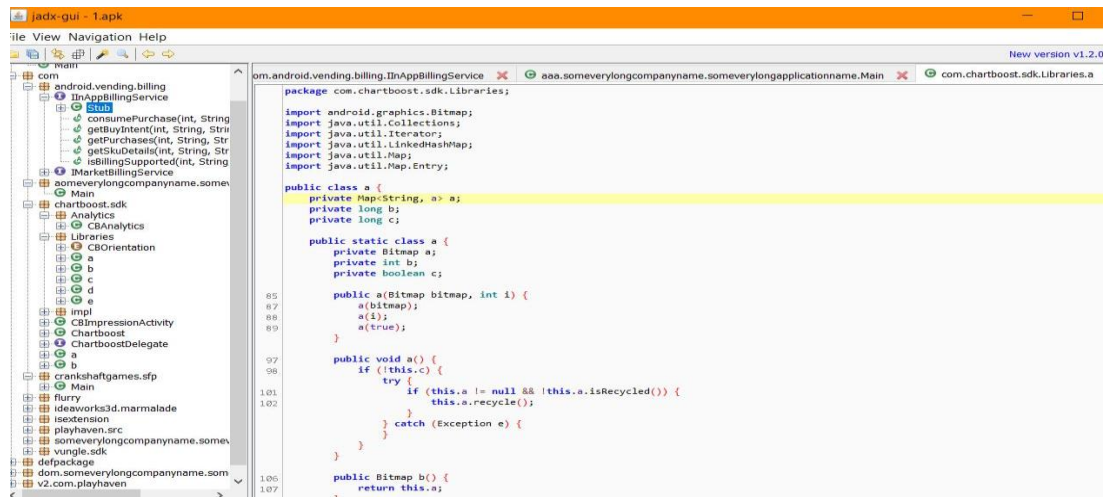
A proposed approach for network traffic clustering to detect the repackaged android malware. Here, the main aim to generate network traffic by the same app to determine that the app has been repackaged or not. Primary, we determine the similarities between app by statistical flow feature and plaintext contents. Then, automatically similarities rate is clustering to separate the benign and repacked app. Some models extract from network behaviors the signature matching process in advance for malware detection; it is not deal with encryption and zero-day attack. So our approach more efficient and less complex in practice.

## **2. PRELIMINARIES**

We are introducing Android malware and Fog Computing from the primary concept of detecting the repackaged app.

### **2.1 Repackaged App**

Android Apk is very easy to repackage. As shown in Figure 1(a),1(b), the 1.APK was disassembled by reverse engineering tools JADX. The JADX is the power tool for reverse engineering.

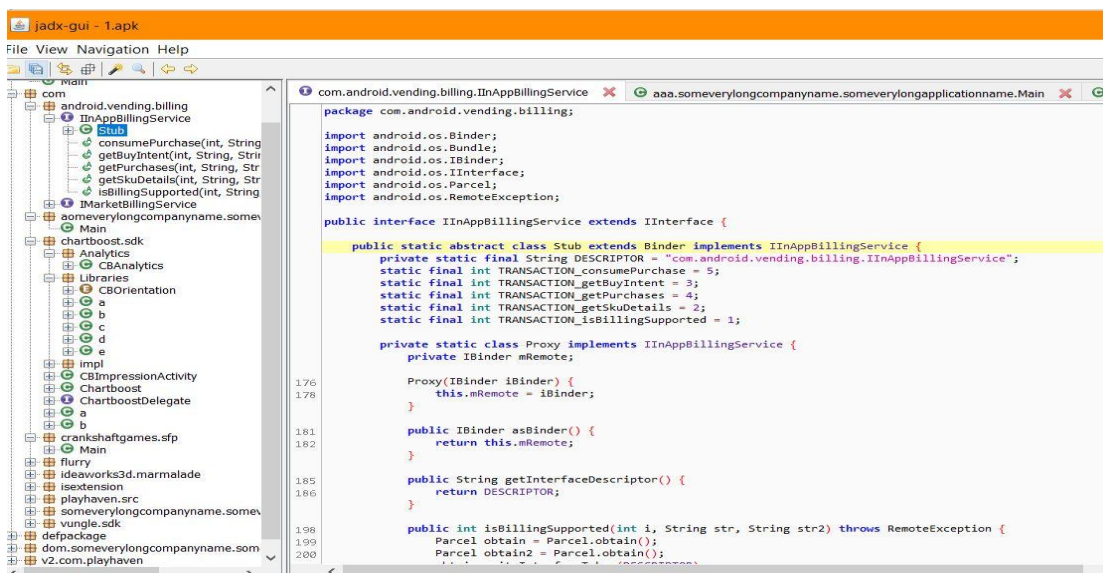


**Figure 1(a):** Reverse Engineering by JADX tool, Total File structure of APK and related code

Most Android malware generates repackaged apps from benign apps; the most popular app is embedded in the malicious code [4]. As proof [16], a community of android security shown 80% of apps are repacked app—the repackaged app launched on the third-party app store. Third-party app stores did not require any integrity evolution of uploaded app [17]. In F-Droid, found some of the app repackaged by the same developer [18]. The Repackaged app is remarked by evaluating by same network traffic app [7,14].

An Android app always has a remote connection to the server to interact, Android app request command to the server, and receives sensitive data from the server. If there is malicious code in the app, network behavior will be differing from the benign app.

Therefore, benign apps lot of network traffic differences from repackaged apps. Inspired by this kind of comparison, a proposed an approach based on network traffic clustering to separate the benign app and repackaged app.

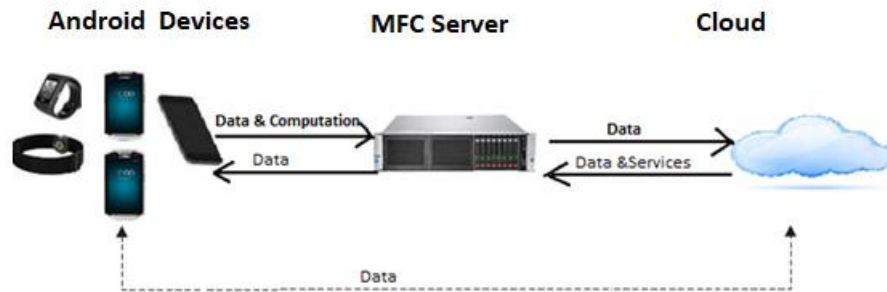


**Figure 1(b)** Reverse Engineering of Com. Android. vending.Billing.AppbillingServices

## 2.2 Fog Computing

Fog computing is technology, which uses the edge of the network on downstream data on behalf of the Internet of Things (IoT) amenities [19]. The important thing in Fog computing, it has the edge, consist computation and network resources between mobile-device/IoT and cloud. Figure 2 represents the paradigm of edge computing. Edges network deployed by Fog server. It is used for preprocessing and foreword the extracted feature of network traffic to the cloud.

The transfer of the service on fog server, fog server is updated online. In most scenarios, the device is connected to the Fog server and cloud simultaneously. In this works, it represents a solid and dotted line. Because in this scenario, all data are not preprocessed by the fog server. The fog computing paradigm represents in Figure 2 for Android malware detection.



**Figure 2:** Paradigm of Fog computing

### 3. RELATED WORK:

The repackaged Android app is the biggest source of malware; many approaches have been proposed to detect them. Similarly, DroidMoss and ResDroid proposed an approach to detecting repackaged apps in the Android Market [20,21]. DroidMoss focused on code and pairwise similarity comparison. ResDroid extracted structure feature and event handler information from code and core resources. Later on, the extracted feature was used to detect the repackaged android app. It used the dividend- conquer strategy to reduce the computation time and have a parallel processing approach.

Assuming Google play store were benign apps, Massvet [22] downloaded all the apps in advance and constructed the V-Score and M-Score database to detect the repackaged android app. In addition, code similarities comparison, behavior, and UI-based approaches are more emerging—DroidChain [23] composed the typical behaviors of the app to detect the repackaged malware. In DroidChain, models composed of typical behavior have some issues, due to this leakage the privacy, escalating privilege, malware installation.

According to an Approach [24], it cannot detect the repackaged partly due to their behavioral similarities of original apps. To overcome this issue, I designed a new technique based on code heterogeneity analysis to detect repackaged Android malware. The hole app structure is partitioned into multiple dependent regions, each region independently classified on its behavioral features.

Techniques used the VizMal[25] for visualizing the app execution to trace to detect the repackaged Android malware and noticed the expected malicious behaviors. A proposed approach used the static UI feature [26]; it detected 3723 and 15956 repackaged apps in the Anzhi market and MI Market, respectively. Results have shown that repackaged malware is a severe threat to the security of mobile. Even the Android market [27] uses the server approached to detect the repackaged app.

Presently, several approaches are proposed to detect the repackaged Android malware based on network traffic behaviors. Arora et al. proposed an approach based on usefulness network traffic to detect Android Malware [28]. One more technique based on network traffic divided app HTTP into two categories: primary and Nonprimary modules. Primary modules used the HTTP flow distance algorithm and the Hungarian method to determine the traffic and pairs similarity. CREDROID [29] proposed an approach to detect the malicious app based on domain name system(DNS) requests and data transmitted to remote servers by performing the in-depth analysis of network traffic logs in offline mode.

Zulkifli et al. [30] designed an approach to detect the repackaged malware app, which used seven network traffic features with the J48 decision tree algorithm. This proposed approach [31] to detect the repackaged Android malware app based on comparing network behaviors of similar apps. This paper used lightweight mobile edge computing. In this worked not consider repackaged apps in our knowledge. Our worked-based network traffic-based repackaged Android malware app detection. In our work, consider the network traffic only. In previous work such as [6,12], we do not need the compare each

evaluated app to all apps in the Android store. We used MFC sever to collect network traffic of apps to determine the repackaged Android malware. In the process, we compare only the network traffic set. The statistical flow feature of the app also helps to deal with encrypted network traffic.

Father improves the performance of the proposed approach; Crowdroid [10] sends the detected feature to on central server for processing. This approach recoded the system call for processing to detect its feature; it is a very lightweight process. The Proposed methods used the permission base malware detection approach. This method divided the system into three categories: Signature Database, Android Client, and Central Server. The android app delivers to the central server by the client Android. The central server extracts all permission requests, calculates permission malware score etc.

**Table 1:** Download Malicious APK from ANDOZOO with size and Detection from TotalVirus.com

S.N.	APK	Date	Size MB	Score Detection by engines
1	939b53399a59b34d839dc055682db549.APK	2019-04-02	53.02	6/59
2	092b3663cb136f5192bfa7e1dc147420.APK	2019-08-17	93.02	5/59
3	093db22b159645d0d7201d9048f0541b.APK	2019-07-25	197.56	11/60
4	194adfa70978e2828a9397204b33bc51.APK	2019-05-27	120.47	3/60
5	220c905d9f1286285356c9511be9d581.APK	2019-05-20	93.80	12/61
6	271e7feb283bd249755be37c7ebf717a.APK	2019-04-01	98.41	14/57
7	293d5e8a0faf770cd00367e6e84ce2a8.APK	2018-09-07	118.26	23/62
8	349f4cf8ce6ab7652da35a89aaa10b3e.APK	2020-05-18	93.87	0/63
9	508e82e3ec3944ce257f126363d4ea7d.APK	2019-07-30	234.41	9/59
10	698b81d63841362c35be0543870b4a5d.APK	2021-02-05	121.37	8/61
11	718e60ac1ad4bd6e9e3ee46994ac8d68.APK	2019-05-17	127.33	6/59
12	814e01e693bea00db481dc30be5aeb1f.APK	2018-09-01	138.87	25/62
13	916a1677ec6fd9798a82381d921a5b9b.APK	2019-06-23	100.26	16/62
14	1317f0080e1b5d0a55876116e1dfd22b.APK	2019-08-04	108.43	3/59
15	642ec177fa7db0bb206b1fd2746798db.APK	2019-07-13	129.24	0/51
16	98f4b2087b408ee174fd07f7898b9127e.APK	2020-03-26	6.81	0/58
17	87b179e18c1947e365a7c9db4f0a3052.APK	2019-05-11	85.85	6/61
18	87b6994c27f474b9874f292ee27bda76.APK	2019-04-02	91.84	4/57
19	408f5eca5cd8be5623fe2fcbfb84d093.APK	2018-08-30	91.61	1/61
20	986ad626e433d8c7f9533fd33540ef1b.APK	2020-05-18	82.76	5/58

As Table 1 Reports, all engines cannot find all kinds of malicious apps; some engines can catch the malicious app. Even some apps did not catch by a single-engine.

#### 4. MOTIVATION:

Most popular apps are chosen for repackaged apps and spread across the world. Therefore, existing techniques compare the vetted app with the official android market app such as google play store to distinguish the repackaged app. The main hypothesis of google play has benign and original apps. Official android app market deployed extensive security measures to protect from attackers. Every day, Google playtest the security of millions of apps, after that appeared in the play store. Awkwardly, there is a comparison between different apps, which is not appropriate as per complexity. Assume that we have N suspected malicious apps and M number official Android market apps. It requires  $N \times M$  comparisons to detect the malicious app. Google play store has approximately 3 million apps. So that, offline comparison requires downloading millions of apps; it is a time-consuming process. Therefore, existing approaches have very high complexity and very difficult to apply in practice.

Our proposed approach has a special kind of network traffic management used to detect the repackaged malware apps. Figure 4 shown the MFC Server to manage specific user requests directly at network edges. Fog Server manages network traffic and forewords only specific information to the cloud instead of all remote traffic. Our main aim here to reduce the number of comparisons, same app run of different Android devices to produce network traffics for analyses and compared.

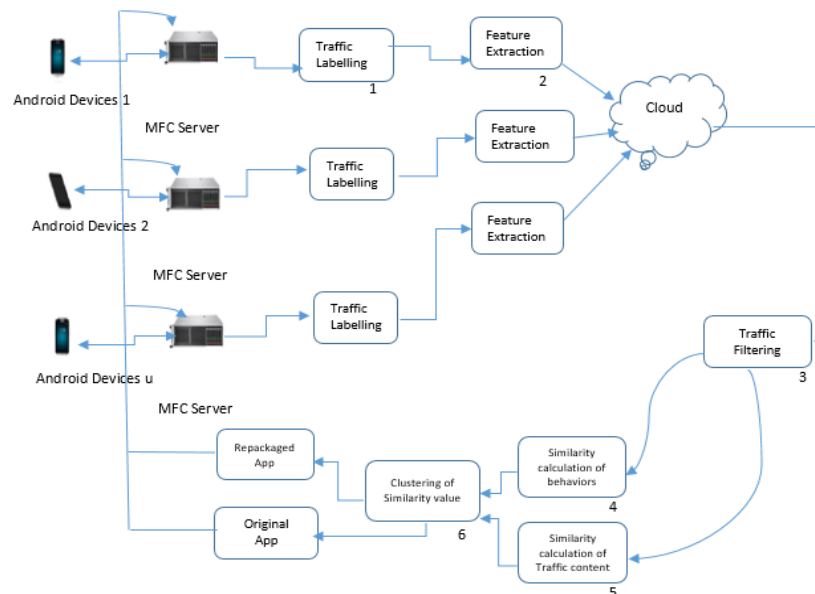
In proposed approach doing the traffic labeling and identifying app by using network traffic. Meanwhile, due to changes in a resource file or added malicious code, partially network traffic would be different from the original app network traffic. A repackaged app can easily identify. That is shown in Figure 5.

## 5. METHODOLOGY

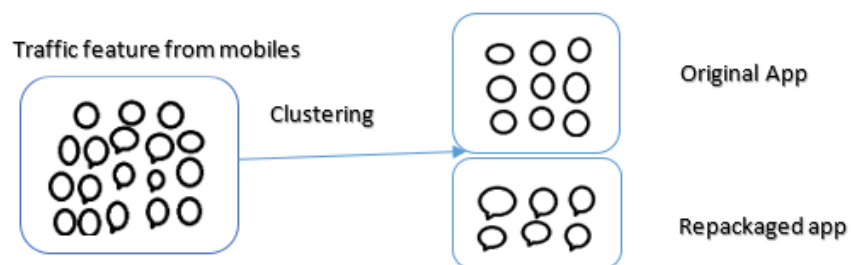
Every device containing the android OS has limited resources; therefore, the detection of Android malware on the device has a very challenging task. We proposed an approach to detect the repackaged malware App at run time. The proposed framework of detection of repackaged Android App is illustrated in figure 4. Our frameworks are divided into three layers such Android devices, MFC Server, and Cloud layer. Figure 4,  $i$  repackaged apps install on  $u$  different android devices. MFC client installed on android devices to foreword the network traffic to MFC server for preprocessing. MFC server primarily labels the network traffics generated by  $i$  apps,  $u$  traffic set are captured. At that point,  $u$  traffic set filtered and get rid of the expected traffic from the set. In Figure 4 represent the labeling and filtering in step 1-3, traffic behaviors and similarity calculation in step 4-5, In step applying clustering approach to separate the repackaged app and original app—the technical detail of the steps discussed in the next section.

### 5.1 Traffic Labeling, filtering, and Feature extraction:

Traffic labeling planned to recognized all traffic produced by the app  $i$  for every android device. We have Extensive approaches to identify the app and flow of network traffics [32]. In MFC Server, traffic labeling is directed by accumulating HTTP signature[33] and correlation [34] of traffics. Every HTTP header has a unique key-value pair in the HTTP signature, and every app has a unique set shown in figure 6. In proposed approaches found that 90% of apps identify from HTTP signature. While HTTP signature matching could not identify by in encrypted apps, further identify the unknown traffic using the traffic correlation methods.

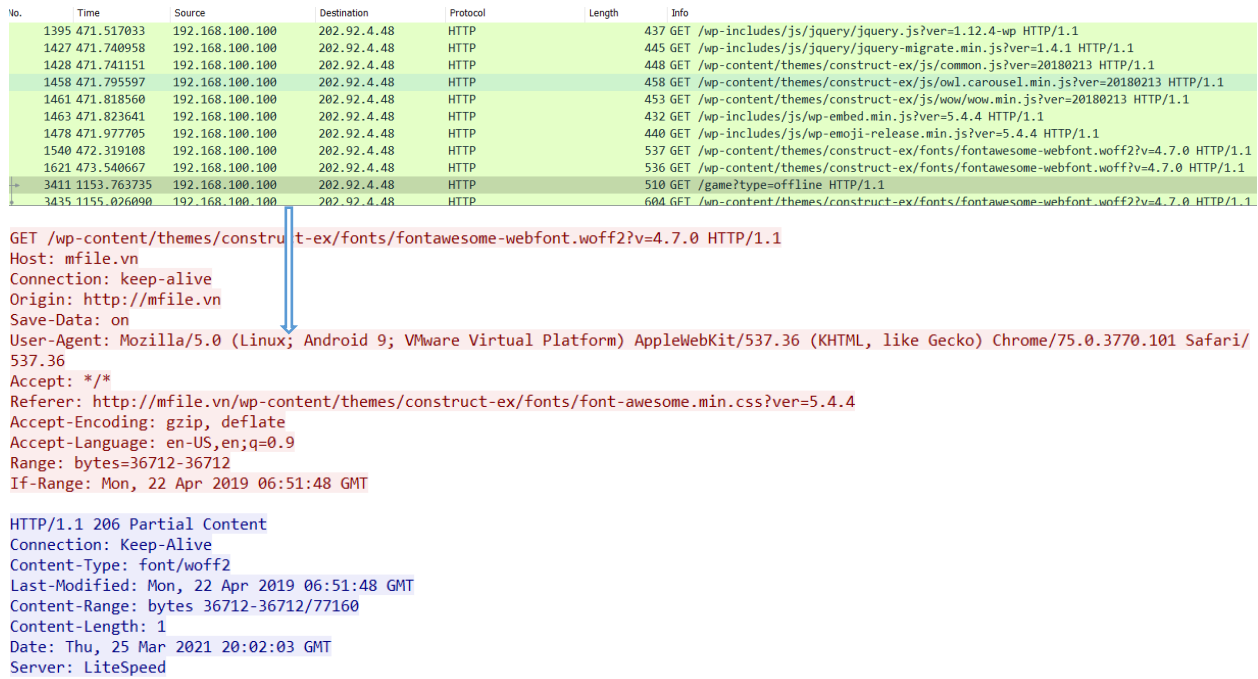


**Figure 4:** The main procedure of the proposed method for repackaged Android Malware detection



**Figure 5:** Illustrate the app identification and repackaged malware detection by comparing network traffic.





**Figure 6:** Example of identification of HTTP Traffic flow

Androids app use multiple connections simultaneously; we have a strong correlation network flow generated by the same app [34]. Therefore, exhibit unknown traffics identification feature—namely unknown flows labeled by correlation traffic. The traffic correlation reveals by DNS clustering and retrieves similar traffic. After labeling the network flows, the MFC server extracts the detection feature of labeled traffic.

Feature extraction is divided into two groups, behavior and content feature. Content feature extracted from HTTP Signature and behavior feature extracted from statistics of network traffic flows. In figure 4, in the step of traffic filtering, discard the common traffic and accept uncommon traffic from  $u$  traffic set. The common traffic in traffic sets such as port number, server IP address. The common traffic generates the similarity calculation among apps. Similarity can increase the complexity level and exhibit any benefit to detect the repackaged malware.

## 5.2 Similarity calculation of traffic content

We observe that in Android app used two types of protocol, such as HTTP and HTTPS. HTTP flows only the plaintext content. We used to determine the similarity of different sets produced by the same app. Further precisely, we first reassemble HTTP flows, extract the content of HTTP, storing the packet content of HTTP into a text file as ASCII code.

The similarity is determining by two algorithms such enhanced TF-IDF [35] and cosine similarity. The term frequency deal to calculate the word count in documents. In eq. 1 document denoted as  $d_i$  and word count as denoted as  $w_j$  and term frequency represents as  $TF(w_j, d_i)$ .

$$TF(w_j, d_i) = 0.5 + \frac{0.5 \times f(w_j, d_i)}{\max \{f(w_j, d_i) : w \in d_i\}} \quad (1)$$

where  $f(w_j, d_i)$  the number of occurrence of words  $w_j$  in the document  $d_i$ .

In the eq. 2 to use inverse document frequencies(IDF) determine, amount of information a word carries. Usually, it is applied the logarithm scale function of inverse to determine the words contained in the document.

$$IDF(W_j) = \log \left( \frac{u}{|\{d, w_j \in d\}|} \right) \quad (2)$$

where  $u$  is the number of documents, and  $|\{d, w_j \in d\}|$  is the number of documents was the exhibit  $w_j$ . The product of  $TF(w_j, d_i)$  and  $IDF(w_j)$  determine in Eq.3.

$$TF-IDF(w_j, d_i) = TF(w_j, d_i) \times IDF(w_j) \quad (3)$$

After product, all document transforms into the exact size of numeric vectors. Here, we applied the cosine similarity between two document vectors. The two different document vectors, such as  $d_i$  and  $d_k$ . And the length of the vector is  $t$ . The similarity determines between two vectors in eq. 4.

$$CS_{d_{ik}} = \frac{\sum_{l=1}^t V(d_i)_l \times \sum_{l=1}^t V(d_k)_l}{\sqrt{\sum_{l=1}^t V(d_i)^2_l} \times \sqrt{\sum_{l=1}^t V(d_k)^2_l}} \quad (4)$$

Finally, for each set  $d_i$  compare with remaining sets  $u - 1$ , and the similarity values would be  $CS_{d_{ii}} = 1$  we represent similarity vectors  $\{CS_{d_{i1}}, CS_{d_{i1}}, CS_{d_{i2}}, CS_{d_{i3}}, \dots, CS_{d_{iu}}\}$ .

**Table 2:** Statistical feature of network flows to calculate from traffic behavior

SN	Feature	Interpretation
1	DNS-Query (Queries Request)	Count
2	Average-DNS-Interval (Interval between two Queries)	Value
3	Distinct-DNS-Query	Count
4	HTTP-Get /Post Request	Count
5	HTTP-Get/Post-Request-Interval	Value
6	Distinct-HTTP-Get/Post-Request	Count
7	Distinct-Source-Port-Used	Count
8	Send Bytes	Value
9	Received Bytes	Value
10	Send-Average-Length	Value
11	Received-Average-Length	Value
12	Send-Packet	Count
13	Received-Packet	Count
14	Destination	Value
15	TCP-RST	Count
16	No-Fail-SYN	Count

### 5.3 Similarity calculation of traffic behaviors

Here, we calculate a similar value of contents that cannot deal with the encrypted flows. Besides, traffic behavior must calculate to deal with the encrypted flows. We use  $m$  ( $m=16$ ) in the statistical analysis study. The statistical feature we selected is given in Table 2. Therefore, the traffic set  $d_i$  has a flow vector represented in the eq. 5 for feature extraction. In figure 7 shown the HTTPS traffics flows for encrypted feature vectors.

$$F_{d_i}^j = (f_j^1, f_j^2, \dots, f_j^m) \quad (5)$$

Where  $f_j^p$  denoted the  $p^{th}$  statistical feature,  $1 \leq p \leq m$ . Set  $d_i$  can be exhibit in the matrix  $f_j^p$ .

$$TB_{n \times m}(d_i) = (f_{d_i}^1, f_{d_i}^2, \dots, f_{d_i}^n)^T \quad (6)$$

where  $n$  denotes the number of encrypted flows enclosed in  $d_i$



No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
7	7.609004	172.217.171.202	192.168.100.100	TCP	54	443 → 1689 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=611 Len=0
8	7.609005	172.217.171.202	192.168.100.100	TCP	54	[TCP Out-Of-Order] 443 → 1689 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=611 Len=0
9	7.609005	172.217.171.202	192.168.100.100	TCP	54	[TCP Out-Of-Order] 443 → 1689 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=611 Len=0
10	7.609005	172.217.171.202	192.168.100.100	TCP	54	[TCP Out-Of-Order] 443 → 1689 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=611 Len=0
11	7.609077	192.168.100.100	172.217.171.202	TCP	54	1689 → 443 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=2 Win=512 Len=0
12	7.609137	192.168.100.100	172.217.171.202	TCP	54	[TCP Dup ACK 11#1] 1689 → 443 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=2 Win=512 Len=0
13	7.609172	192.168.100.100	172.217.171.202	TCP	54	[TCP Dup ACK 11#2] 1689 → 443 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=2 Win=512 Len=0
22	19.533009	192.168.100.100	172.217.171.195	TCP	66	1942 → 443 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460 WS=256 SACK_PERM=1
24	19.634500	172.217.171.195	192.168.100.100	TCP	66	443 → 1942 [SYN, ACK] Seq=0 Ack=1 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1412 SACK_PERM=1 WS=256
25	19.634628	192.168.100.100	172.217.171.195	TCP	54	1942 → 443 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=131072 Len=0
26	19.635977	192.168.100.100	172.217.171.195	TLSv1.3	571	Client Hello
27	19.737895	172.217.171.195	192.168.100.100	TCP	54	443 → 1942 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=518 Win=66816 Len=0
28	19.757848	172.217.171.195	192.168.100.100	TLSv1.3	1466	Server Hello, Change Cipher Spec
29	19.757849	172.217.171.195	192.168.100.100	TCP	1466	443 → 1942 [ACK] Seq=1413 Ack=518 Win=66816 Len=1412 [TCP segment of a reassembled PDU]
30	19.757850	172.217.171.195	192.168.100.100	TLSv1.3	257	Application Data
31	19.757931	192.168.100.100	172.217.171.195	TCP	54	1942 → 443 [ACK] Seq=518 Ack=3028 Win=131072 Len=0
32	19.775901	192.168.100.100	172.217.171.195	TLSv1.3	118	Change Cipher Spec, Application Data
33	19.776500	192.168.100.100	172.217.171.195	TLSv1.3	1466	Application Data, Application Data
34	19.776500	192.168.100.100	172.217.171.195	TCP	637	1942 → 443 [PSH, ACK] Seq=1994 Ack=3028 Win=131072 Len=583 [TCP segment of a reassembled PDU]
35	19.878009	172.217.171.195	192.168.100.100	TLSv1.3	634	Application Data, Application Data
36	19.878073	192.168.100.100	172.217.171.195	TLSv1.3	301	Application Data
37	19.881849	172.217.171.195	192.168.100.100	TCP	54	443 → 1942 [ACK] Seq=3608 Ack=2577 Win=72448 Len=0
38	19.881886	192.168.100.100	172.217.171.195	TLSv1.3	85	Application Data
39	19.882877	172.217.171.195	192.168.100.100	TLSv1.3	85	Application Data
40	19.924431	192.168.100.100	172.217.171.195	TCP	54	1942 → 443 [ACK] Seq=2855 Ack=3639 Win=130560 Len=0
41	19.981541	172.217.171.195	192.168.100.100	TCP	54	443 → 1942 [ACK] Seq=3639 Ack=2855 Win=75264 Len=0

Figure 7: Encrypted traffic flows for behavior feature vectors.

In eq. 7, illustrate a feature set, but that is not identical in size in encrypted flows. The behavior of  $TB_{n_i \times m}(d_i)$  and  $TB_{n_k \times m}(d_k)$  are not identical in terms of dimensions. We determine the Frobenius norm for  $TB_{n_i \times m}(d_i)$  and  $TB_{n_k \times m}(d_k)$ . The procedure is presented in eq. 7, where  $f_j^1$  normalized the value into [0,1]:

$$FN(d) = \sqrt{\sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{p=1}^m \text{normalize} |f_j^p|^2} \quad (7)$$

After that, calculate the distance between  $TB_{n_i \times m}(d_i)$  and  $TB_{n_k \times m}(d_k)$  is determine into eq. 8.

$$\text{dis}(d_i, d_j) = |FN(d_i) - FN(d_k)| \quad (8)$$

Finally, determine the similarity between  $TB_{n_i \times m}(d_i)$  and  $TB_{n_k \times m}(d_k)$  in Eq. 9. In the below process  $n_i$  and  $n_k$  Not more than 1.

$$BS_{d_{ik}} = 1 - \frac{\text{dis}(d_i, d_j)}{\max [\text{dis}(d_i, d_j), r, q=1,2,3...u, r \neq q]} \quad (9)$$

$BS_{d_{ik}}$  Set to 1 if coming to the same behavior and otherwise set to 0. Similarity

#### 5.4 Clustering of similarity values and repackaged malware detection

The similarity of traffic content  $CS_{d_{ik}}$  and feature extraction (behavior) similarity  $BS_{d_{ik}}$ , we determine the final similarity  $S_{d_{ik}}$  among the  $d_i$  and  $d_k$ . Illustrate in Eq. 10. The set  $d_i$  has a vector length  $S_{d_i} = (S_{d_{i1}}, S_{d_{i2}}, S_{d_{i3}} \dots S_{d_{iu}})$ . Here  $\{S_{d_i}\}$ ,  $i = 1,2,3, \dots u$  clustering and detect the repackaged app.

$$S_{d_{ik}} = q \times CS_{d_{ik}} + (1 - q) \times BS_{d_{ik}} \quad (10)$$

Eq. 10 used the density peak clustering approach [36]. In this approach, we have a high-density cluster in the center from its neighbor. It keeps a significant distance from the density cluster. The density Peak clustering approach automatically recognizes the correct cluster. This approach is suitable for detect repackaging malware because we don't know whether the app is repackaged or not and how many types of repackaging malware. Density peak clustering is the optimum solution to this kind of problem. Clustering, we labeled the original app and repackaged the app. We predict that most android devices run the original app. Therefore, in the clustering process, the most significant area of Voxels in the cluster is recognized as the original and continuing cluster viewed as the suspicious app. The suspicious app may be repackaged malware or affected by other malware. However, adware would be repackaged malware. Original can have recognized as a suspected app due to different behaviors of the app. We minimized the false alarm to verify the hostname name of the server. The repackaged recognize into VirusTotal by hostname of the server in the cluster. The original app, if all hostname names of the server, was found clean in the cluster and expected behavior, otherwise recognized as repackaged malware.

### 7. EVOLUTION

We downloaded the 400 original and 400 similar repackaged apps from Andozoo to run the experiment. All downloaded 400 apps checked by Virustotal. We found the 296 apps infected by malware verified to Virustotal, shown the result of 20 apps in Table 1. Nevertheless, we obtained a more realistic

performance by our experiment. We set up 8 Android 9.0 OS on VMware 16.x Pro under win 10, all downloaded app installed on different android devices. We collected all network traffic using TCPDump. The fog Server (assume win-10 machine) used the TCPDump to collect all network traffic. Here we saved the pcap files. To extract the feature, we used the splitcap to reestablish TCP flow from pcap files. To find the extracted traffic feature from HTTP used the Wireshark. The evaluate of  $CS_{dik}$  and  $BS_{dik}$  Used the scikit-learn and NumPy. The clustering code (cluster-peak\_density) was downloaded from Github.

$$Accuracy = \frac{TP+TN}{TP+FN+FP+TN} \quad (11)$$

$$F - Measure = \frac{2*Precision*recall}{recall+Precision} \quad (12)$$

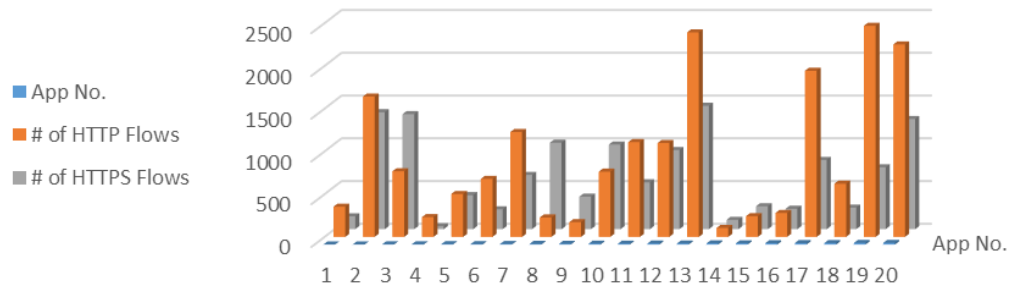
$$Precision = \frac{TP}{TP+FP} \quad (13)$$

$$Recall = \frac{TP}{TP+FN} \quad (14)$$

In previous works [8,14] to evaluated the performance proposed approach. We have measured the accuracy and F-measure for each app, define into eq. 11 and eq. 12. In eq. 12, evaluated by from Recall (eq.13) and Precision(eq.14). We have calculated the F-measure and accuracy for each repackaged app. Table 3 and figure 8 represent the HTTP and HTTPS(Encrypted) traffic flows.

**Table3: Detail of description of the malicious apps with encryption and without encryption traffic flows**

S.N.	AndroZoo APK	App Types	# of HTTP Flows	# of HTTPS Flows
1	939b53399a59b34d839dc055682db549.APK	Game	353	151
2	092b3663cb136f5192bfa7e1dc147420.APK	Browser	1641	1368
3	093db22b159645d0d7201d9048f0541b.APK	Chat	767	1345
4	194adfa70978e2828a9397204b33bc51.APK	Game	231	35
5	220c905d9f1286285356c9511be9d581.APK	Game	502	398
6	271e7feb283bd249755be37c7ebf717a.APK	Game	678	233
7	293d5e8a0faf770cd00367e6e84ce2a8.APK	Media Player	1226	634
8	349f4cf8ce6ab7652da35a89aaa10b3e.APK	Music	227	1012
9	508e82e3ec3944ce257f126363d4ea7d.APK	Game	172	381
10	698b81d63841362c35be0543870b4a5d.APK	News	763	990
11	718e60ac1ad4bd6e9e3ee46994ac8d68.APK	News and Weather	1108	548
12	814e01e693bea00db481dc30be5aeb1f.APK	Fitness	1098	926
13	916a1677ec6fd9798a82381d921a5b9b.APK	Online learning	2391	1443
14	1317f0080e1b5d0a55876116e1dfd22b.APK	Game	105	109
15	642ec177fa7db0bb206b1fd2746798db.APK	Email	243	268
16	98f4b2087b408ee174fd07f7898b9127e.APK	Chat	280	239
17	87b179e18c1947e365a7c9db4f0a3052.APK	Game	1942	810
18	87b6994c27f474b9874f292ee27bda76.APK	Game	622	253
19	408f5eca5cd8be5623fe2fcbfb84d093.APK	Chat	2468	724
20	986ad626e433d8c7f9533fd33540ef1b.APK	Game	2250	1288



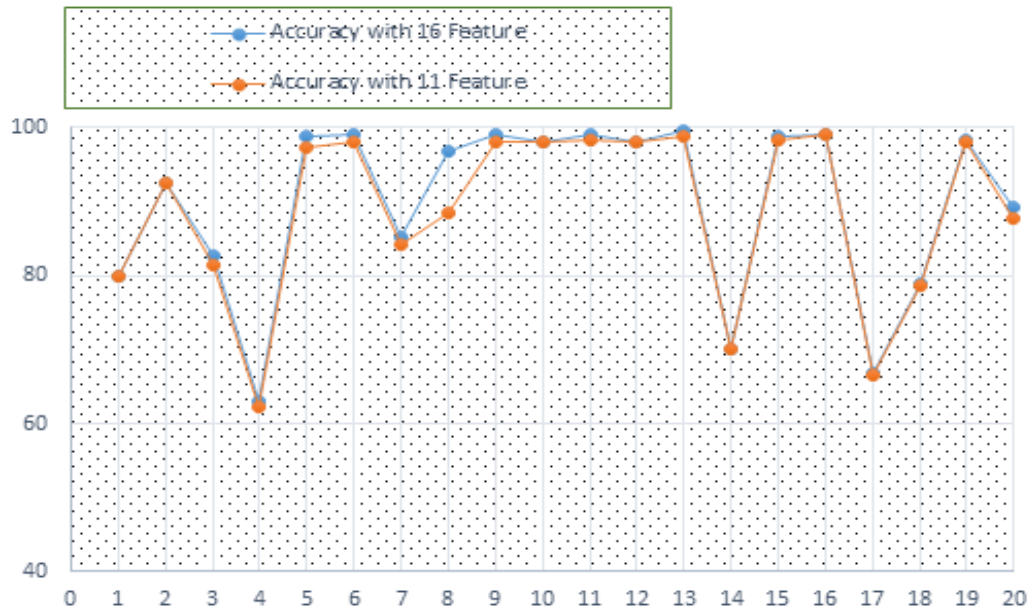
**Figure 8:** Network-based encrypted and unencrypted flows of 20 apps

**Table 4:** Dataset for Malicious android app detection

	Number of apps	Number of Execution	Number of HTTP Flows	Number of HTTPS Flows
<b>Original app</b>	400	50	705780	410000
<b>Repackaged App</b>	400	20	315000	198000

**Table 5:** Detection of unknown app accuracies with different features

S. N.	Accuracy(in %) With 16 Features	Accuracy(in %) with 11 features
1	80	80
2	92.6	92.6
3	82.7	81.5
4	63	62.3
5	98.9	97.3
6	99	98
7	85.3	84.3
8	96.9	88.5
9	99	98
10	98	98
11	99	98.2
12	98	98
13	99.5	98.7
14	70	70
15	98.8	98.4
16	99	99
17	66.7	66.5
18	78.8	78.6
19	98.4	98
20	89.3	87.8
<b>Average</b>	<b>89.64</b>	<b>88.68</b>



**Figure 9:** Comparison of accuracy with different extraction feature of 20 apps

We have designed F-measure and accuracy of original apps and repackaged apps. In the experiment, we took 50 original app traffic sets and 20 repackaged app traffic sets in Table 4, specifically  $TP+FN=20$  and  $TN+FP=50$  for every app. In VirusTotal detected, 296 apps are affected by malware, and 104 apps are safe. In this calculation,  $TP+FN=104*50=5200$  and  $TN+FP=104*20=2080$  for repackaged safely. For malware app  $TP+FN=296*50=14800$  and  $296*20=5920$ . This is for in our tests. In VirusTotal, 296 apps are recognized as malware app, and 104 apps are original apps.

In figure 9 and Table 5 depicted that app number {5,6,9,10,11,13,15,16 and 19} have more than 98.4% accuracy with 16 feature extraction point but with 11 feature extraction have less accuracy. However, more feature extraction increased the complexity of the detection of the approach. The low number of the feature has very low complexity. Table 6 depicted the average accuracy and F-Measure with 16 features and 11 feature extraction points to detect the repackaged malware apps and original apps. We found a 97.7% good accuracy rate with 16 feature extraction points with high complexity measures and 96.9% accuracy with 11 feature extraction points with less complexity than 16 feature extraction points.

We found that more feature extraction increased more computational time and increased the accuracy of detecting repackaged malware. Less feature extraction decreased the computation time and decreased accuracy of detection of the repackaged malware apps.

**Table 6: Average accuracy and F-Measure detection with different feature extraction**

	Average Accuracy	Average F-Measure
Detection with 16 features extraction Parameter	97.7	0.96
Detection with 11 features extraction Parameter	96.9	0.94

## 8. CONCLUSION

In this paper, we enhanced proposed an approach to the detection of Android repackaged malware. Experimental works used Fog commuting to reduce the end device (Mobile node) load for Android malware detection. In the current scenario, most of the techniques used static analysis to detect the repackaged apps. Here we used the dynamic approach for detection and repackaged malware with analysis of network traffics. We used the cluster-peak\_density and feature extraction of network traffics of each app to detect the app with high accuracy of 97.7%. We found that if we increased more feature extraction parameters for detection, malware apps also increased the CPU consumption, and low feature extraction parameters decreased the accuracy also decreased the CPU consumption. In the future, we try to improve the accuracy and decrease the CPU consumption.

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